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1985

Annual Report

For the Town of

BENTON NEW HAMPSHIRE

For the Year ending December 31
1985

Annual Report

For the Town of

BENTON **NEW HAMPSHIRE**

For the Year ending December 31
1985

TOWN OF BENTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE TOWN OFFICERS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1985

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Benton Town Officers
1985

Board of Selectmen:

<u>Chairman:</u>	Marjorie Robitzer	Term Expires 1987
	John Elliott, Jr.	Term Expires 1988
	Peter Thompson	Term Expires 1986
<u>Moderator:</u>	Daniel Elliott	Term Expires 1986
<u>Town Clerk:</u>	Helena Harris	Term Expires 1986
<u>Tax Collector:</u>		

	Maxine Tyler	Term Expires 1986
	Helena Harris (Deputy)	

<u>Treasurer:</u>	Priscilla Boutin	Term Expires 1986
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<u>Auditor:</u>	Matthew Flynn	Term Expires 1986
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Supervisors of the Checklist:

	Catherine Elliott	Term Expires 1986
	Seraphene Harris	Term Expires 1988
	Jane Elliott	Term Expires 1987

Trustee of the Trust Funds:

	Scott Roden	Term Expires 1986
	Joseph Boutin, Jr.	Term Expires 1987

Surveyor of Wood and Lumber:

	Joseph Boutin, Jr.	Term Expires 1986
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<u>Dog Officer:</u>	David Harris	Term Expires 1986
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<u>Sexton:</u>	David Harris	Term Expires 1986
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<u>Ballot Clerk:</u>	Iona Boutin	Term Expires 1986
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<u>Ballot Inspector:</u>	Kate Goodwin	Term Expires 1986
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WARRANT FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

GRAFTON, SS

TOWN OF BENTON

To the inhabitants of the Town of Benton, N.H., who are qualified to vote in town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Community Building in Benton on Tuesday, March 11, 1986 at 7:00 P.M. to act upon the following subjects:

Article 1: to vote for the following officers:

One selectman to serve for a term of three years
One Treasurer to serve for a term of one year
One Tax Collector to serve for a term of one year
One Trustee of Trust Funds to serve for a term of three years

and such other town officers as may be required by law.

Article 2: To see if the Town will vote to contribute to the White Mountain Mental Health Services, the North Country Home Health Agency, the Cottage Hospital and the Ambulance Service and in what amounts.

Article 3: to see if the Town will vote to make any alterations in the amount of money to be raised and appropriated for the ensuing year for the support of the Town as recommended in the budget, to raise and appropriate all sums so determined for said purposes, and to pass any other vote unrelated thereto.

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of officers and agents as printed in the Town Report.

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the selectmen to borrow funds for current indebtedness in anticipation of taxes collected in Fiscal Year 1987 and to be paid therefrom.

Article 6: To see if the town will vote to authorize the selectmen to administer or sell any real estate acquired through tax collectors deeds.

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to authorize a discount on current property taxes paid before a date set by the selectmen, if all previous taxes are paid, and will set the amount of said discount.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to remain members of the North Country Council and the New Hampshire Municipal Assn. @ \$230.00 and \$400.00, respectively.

Article 9: To see if the Town will re-fix the price of lots in the Pleasant View Cemetery.

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to do some re-building of Town Roads each year in addition to the regular maintainance.

Article 11: To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

A true copy of warrant - Attest

Marjorie Robitzer
John Elliott, Jr.
Peter Thompson
Selectmen of Benton, NH

Town of Benton
Budget, Inventory and Analysis

<u>Sources of Revenue</u>	Estimated 1985	Actual 1985	Estimated 1986
<u>Taxes-</u>			
Resident Taxes	\$1100.00	\$1150.00	\$1150.00
Yield Taxes	500.00	1396.15	2000.00
Interest and Penalties	2000.00	1995.66	2000.00
Inventory Penalties	50.00	--	--
 <u>Intergovernmental Revenues</u>			
N.H. Block Grant & Highway	\$8049.09	\$8049.09	\$6796.25
Reimbursement - State &			
Federal Forest Lands	8000.00	5412.44	7000.00
National Forest Reserve (1/2)	5000.00	8108.01	7000.00
N.H. Revenue Sharing		6436.90	6500.00
Federal Revenue Sharing	3235.00	3205.00	2100.00
Federally Owned Entitlement Lands	7000.00	6189.00	7000.00
 <u>Licenses and Permits</u>			
Motor Vehicles	\$6500.00	\$7825.00	\$7500.00
Dog Licenses and Penalties	250.00	257.00	250.00
Permits and Filing Fees		14.00	10.00
 <u>Miscellaneous Revenue</u>			
Interest on Deposits	\$2000.00	\$3548.15	\$2500.00
Sale of Town Property -			
Girard Lot	1305.00	1305.00	
Sale of Cemetary Lots	50.00		50.00
Trust Funds Cemetary	300.00		
Highways	300.00	665.33	650.00
Refund - Welfare (1983)		27.25	
N.H. Municipal Association			
Interest		7.08	
Rent of Town Hall	100.00	25.00	50.00
 Gift from Henry Waldo In Memory of John Boutin, Sr. For Upkeep of Old School		25.00	
	\$45,739.09	\$55,651.06	\$52,556.25

Town of Benton
Summary of Inventory Valuation

Land - Improved & Umimproved	\$1,881,160.00
Under Current Use	\$74,250.00
All Other	\$1,806,910.00
Buildings	\$2,197,690.00
Public Utilities - Electric	58,560.00
Personal Property - Mobile Homes	<u>141,580.00</u>
	\$4,278,990.00
Elderly Exemptions	<u>-\$ 10,000.00</u>
	\$4,268.990.00

Town of Benton
Schedule of Town Property
As of December 31, 1985

Description	Value
Town Hall, Land & Buildings	\$48,700.00
Furniture & Equipment	2,000.00
Old Town Clerks Office and Furnishings	<u>500.00</u>
	\$51.200.00

Town of Benton
Budget And Summary Analysis

	Expenses 1984	Appropri ation '85	Expenses 1985	Estimated 1986
Officers Salaries	\$1265.00	\$2000.00	\$2025.00	\$2025.00
Officers Expenses	1446.08	2000.00	1622.77	1600.00
Elections	1221.80	300.00	255.80	900.00
Community Building	1985.50	1500.00	1494.80	1500.00
Town Clerk Fees	142.00	200.00	126.50	150.00
Legal Expenses	526.55	500.00	485.00	500.00
Insurance & Bonds	1147.65	1500.00	1304.00	1500.00
Dues	677.00	700.00	677.00	700.00
Health Dept.	1436.25	1436.25	1436.25	1500.00
Solid Waste Disposal	1505.04	1610.00	1505.04	1500.00
Roads				
Summer Roads	13475.94		2058.38	
Winter Roads	10442.59		7903.53	
Total				
	<u>\$23,918.53</u>	<u>\$12,000.00</u>	<u>\$9961.91</u>	<u>\$14,000.00</u>
Welfare	50.25	300.00	274.02	300.00
Cemeteries	357.10	350.00	404.93	350.00
Interest	1441.34	1500.00	1733.33	1500.00
Fire Department		3500.00	922.50	3500.00
Police Department		200.00		200.00
Totals				
	<u>\$37,119.79</u>	<u>\$29,596.25</u>	<u>\$24,228.85</u>	<u>\$31,725.00</u>

Remark- 1984 Rebuilding Tunnel Stream Road After Washout *
Cost Was Approximately \$6,500.00.

Town of Benton
Report of Town Clerk For The Year Ending
December 31, 1985

DEBITS

Motor Vehicle Permits Issued	213	\$8076.00
Dog Licenses Issued	50	222.00
Fines And Penalties	12	<u>35.00</u>

Total Debits \$8333.00

CREDITS

Remittance To Treasurer

Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	\$7825.00
Dog Licenses & Penalties	257.00

Fees Retained By Town Clerk

Motor Vehicle	226.00
Dog Licenses	<u>25.00</u>

Total Credits \$8333.00

Respectfully Submitted,
Helena L. Harris
Town Clerk, Benton

Town of Benton
Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 1985
Tax Collectors Report

<u>--DR--</u>		Levies of:		
<u>Uncollected Taxes - Beginning of Fiscal Year</u>		1985	1984	1981
Property Taxes			\$13,639.21	
Resident Taxes			380.00	
Yield Taxes			1,034.52	\$ 932.30
<u>Taxes Committed to Collector:</u>				
Property Taxes	\$73,214.07			
Resident Taxes	1,140.00			
Yield Taxes	902.32			
<u>Added Taxes:</u>				
Resident Taxes	70.00			
<u>Overpayments:</u>				
a/c Property Taxes			.09	
<u>Interest Collected on Delinquent</u>				
<u>Property Taxes:</u>				
Yield Taxes			952.39	
			88.50	33.12
<u>Penalties Collected on Resident Taxes</u>				
	1.00		23.00	
<u>Total Debits.....</u>	<u>\$75,327.39</u>	<u>\$16,117.71</u>	<u>\$66.23</u>	<u>\$932.30</u>

Town of Benton

Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 1985

Tax Collectors Report

<u>Remittances to Treasurer During Fiscal Year:</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1981</u>
Property Taxes	\$55,876.96	\$13,586.74		
Resident Taxes	850.00	280.00		
Yield Taxes	805.65	590.10	\$ 33.11	
Interest Collected During Yr.		952.39		
Penalties on Resident Taxes	1.00	23.00		
Interest on Yield Taxes		88.50	33.62	
<u>Discounts Allowed:</u>				
O.P. Property - Collected	1,521.15	.09		
<u>Abatements Made During Year:</u>				
Property Taxes		52.47		
Resident Taxes	86.63	60.00		932.30
Yield Taxes				
<u>Uncollected Taxes - End of Fiscal Year:</u>				
(As per Collectors List)				
Property Taxes	15,709.33			
Resident Taxes	360.00	40.00		
Yield Taxes	96.67	444.42		
Collected in 1984	20.00			
TOTAL CR	\$75,327.39	\$16,117.71	\$66.23	\$932.30

Town of Benton
Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 1985
Tax Collectors Report

--DR--
---Tax Sales on Account of Levies of:---

	1984	1983	1982
Balance of Unredeemed Taxes; Beginning of Fiscal Year.....	\$	\$2,322.32	\$1,813.09
Taxes Sold to Town During Current Fiscal Year.....	\$2,435.64	179.32	528.34
Interest Collected After Sale	39.47		63.00
Redemption Costs	16.50	71.00	
TOTAL DEBITS	\$2,491.61	\$2,572.64	\$2,404.43
--CR--			
Remittances to Treasurer During Year:			
Redemptions	\$ 819.05	\$1,603.66	\$1,813.09
Interest & Costs After Sale	55.97	250.32	591.09
Unredeemed Taxes - End of Fiscal Yr.,	1,616.59	718.66	
TOTAL CREDITS	\$2,491.61	\$2,572.64	\$2,404.43

Town of Denton
Treasurers Report

From Selectmen

Current Land Use	\$	6.00
Pistol Permits		8.00
Municipal Fund Interest		7.08
Welfare Reimbursement		27.25
Redemption (Jeff Elliott)		1305.00
Jound Boutin Sr. (In Memory)		25.00
		\$1378.33

From State of N.H.

Block Grant	\$	8049.09
State & Federal Lands		5412.44
National Forest Reserve Fund ...		16,216.02
		\$29,677.55

From U.S. Treasury

Federally Owned Lands		\$6189.00
		\$6189.00
From Revenue Sharing Transfer		\$7392.41
		\$7392.41

		\$53,770.62
+ Carry Taxes		78,289.36
		\$132,059.98
+ Bank Interest.....		356.22
		\$132,416.20
+ Balance (1-1-85).....		19,981.92
		\$152,398.12
+ Choice Account Trans..		147,200.00
		\$299,598.12
- Selectmens Orders.....		204,297.25
		\$ 95,300.87
- Choice Accounts.....		61,000.00
		\$ 34,300.87
- USF		24.00
		\$ 34,276.87
- Maxine (Booklet)		4.28
		\$ 34,272.59
- Bank SC.....		24.00
		\$ 34,248.59
- USF Fees.....		4.00
		\$ 34,252.59
Balance on Hand (12-31-85)		\$ 34,252.59

Town of Benton
Treasurers Report

From Tax Collector

1982 Tax Sale Redeemed	\$1785.79	
1982 Tax Sale Costs	51.20	
1982 Tax Sale Interest	555.64	
		\$2392.63

1983 Tax Sale Redeemed	\$1603.66	
1983 Tax Sale Costs	71.00	
1983 Tax Sale Interest	179.32	
		\$1853.98

1984 Tax Sale Redeemed	\$ 819.05	
1984 Tax Sale Costs	16.50	
1984 Tax Sale Interest	39.47	
1984 After Sale Costs	176.17	
		\$1051.19

1984 Property Tax	\$13,586.83	
1984 Property Interest	776.52	
1984 Property Overpayment	93.10	
1984 Resident Tax	300.00	
1984 Resident Penalty	23.00	
1984 Yield Tax	590.10	
1984 Yield Interest	88.50	
		\$15,457.75

1985 Property Tax	\$55,877.16	
1985 Resident Tax	850.00	
1985 Resident Penalty	1.00	
1985 Yield Tax	805.65	
		\$78,289.36

From Town Clerk

1985 Motor Vehicle Tax	\$7740.00	
1985 Motor Vehicle Transfers	85.00	
1985 Dog Permits	222.00	
1985 Dog Permit Penalties	35.00	
		\$8082.00

From Trust Fund

For Cemeteries	\$335.57	
For Highways	329.76	
		\$665.33

From Franconia Insurance
Refund

	\$386.00	
		\$386.00

Town of Benton
Treasurers Report

12-31-85	Yield Acct. #30502	Revenue Sharing #30167	Choice Acct. #6800219
Bal. on Hand	\$1447.88	\$8053.80	\$42,394.07
Deposits	2178.57	9641.90	111,000.00
Interest	<u>116.40</u>	<u>376.59</u>	<u>3055.16</u>
	\$3742.85	\$18,072.29	\$156,449.23
Withdrawals			
Balance on Hand (1-1-86)		<u>17,392.41</u>	<u>.90</u>
		\$ 679.88	\$156,448.33
Withdrawals			
Balance on Hand (1-1-86)			<u>\$147,200.00</u>
			\$ 9,248.33

Town of Benton
Treasurers Report - Detail Statement of Disbursement

Town Officers Salaries

Matthew Flynn	Auditor	\$ 25.00
Wayne Klingler	Selectman	150.00
Marjorie Robitzer	Selectwoman	316.67
John Elliott Jr.	Selectman	316.67
Peter Thompson	Selectman	316.67
Priscilla Boutin	Treasurer	300.00
Maxine Tyler	Tax Collector	300.00
Helena Harris	Town Clerk	300.00
		\$2025.00

Town Officers Expenses

Typewriter and Calculator	\$263.09
Notices	88.00
C.U, App. - Registrar of Deeds	9.00
Tax Sale Exp. - Registrar of Deeds	34.88
Safe Deposit Box	17.50
Dog Officers Expenses	151.45
Tax Collecors Expenses	142.34
Postage	202.34
Town Reports	373.00
Office and Misc. Supplies	141.19
Surveyer of Wood & Lumber (2 Yrs)	200.00
	\$1622.77

Elections & Registrations

Supervisors Notice	\$ 28.00
Helena Harris	26.80
Seraphene Harris	53.60
John Elliott, Jr.	26.80
Wayne Klingler	26.80
Marjorie Robitzer	26.80
Catherine Elliott	40.20
Daniel Elliott	26.80
	\$255.80

Town of Benton
Treasurers Report - Detail Statement of Disbursements

Town Building

Telephone	\$303.41	
Fuel Oil and Repairs	993.95	
Electric	147.44	
Plowing	50.00	
		<u>\$1494.80</u>

Town Clerk Fees

<u>\$126.50</u>	
	\$ 126.50

Insurance & Bonds

<u>\$1690.00</u>	
	\$1690.00

Dues

N.H. Tax Collectors Assn.	\$ 15.00	
N.H. Municipal Assn.	400.00	
No. Country Council	230.00	
N.H. Town Clerks Assn.	12.00	
N.H. Assn. Of Assessing Officials	20.00	
		<u>\$677.00</u>

Health Department

North Country Home Health	\$ 341.25	
Cottage Hospital	500.00	
Cottage Hosp. Ambulance	100.00	
White Mt. Mental Health	495.00	
		<u>\$1436.25</u>

Solid Waste Disposal

Leete-Powers	<u>\$1505.04</u>	
		\$1505.04

Town of Benton
Treasurers Report - Detail Statement of Disbursements

Town Roads

Winter Roads

Frank Drew	\$4975.00
Sand	320.00
Salt	318.58
Plastic	79.95
Daniel Elliott	<u>2210.00</u>
	\$7903.53

Summer Roads

To Install Sign (F. Drew)	\$ 134.00
Mowing	150.00
Gravel - French Pond Cr.	280.00
Cold Patch - A. Whitcomb	356.78
Daniel Elliott	<u>1137.50</u>
	\$2058.38

\$9961.91

Public Welfare

\$ 274.02

\$ 274.02

Fires

Bradley Hill Road - Woods	\$ 360.00
Frank Drew - Truck Fire	<u>562.50</u>
	\$922.50

Cemeteries

Debs Wheel & Deal - Mower	\$190.00
David Harris - Mowing	<u>214.93</u>
	\$404.93

Town of Benton
Treasurers Report - Detail Statement of Disbursements

Legal Fees

Gardner - Costello	\$415.00	
Wood - Drew	70.00	
		\$485.00

Interest

Taxes Bought by Town	\$1733.33	
Abatements and Refunds	\$2435.64	
Tax Anticiaption Note	697.62	
Payments to other Gov't. Divis.	40,000 .00	
Payments to School Dist.	10,608 .50	
		125,940 .65
		\$181,415.73

Total Selectmens Orders

\$204,297.25

Town of Benton
Comparative State of Appropriations and Expenditures
For Year Ending Dec. 31, 1985

Title of Appropriation	Appropriation	Reimburse- ments	Total Amount Available	Expenditures	Unexpended Balance	Overdraft
		\$	\$2000.00	\$2025.00	\$	\$ 25.00
Town Officers Salaries	\$2000.00		2000.00	1622.77	377.23	
Town Officers Expenses	2000.00		300.00	255.80	44.20	
Elections	300.00		1500.00	1494.80	5.20	
Town Building	1500.00		200.00	126.50	73.50	
Town Clerk Fees	200.00		500.00	485.00	15.00	
Legal Expenses	500.00		1886.00	1690.00	196.00	
Insurance & Bonds	1500.00	386.00	700.00	677.00	23.00	
Dues	700.00		1436.20	1436.20		
Health Department	1436.25		1610.00	1505.04	104.96	
Town Dump	1610.00		12,329.76	9961.91	2,367.85	
Town Roads	12,000.00	329.76	327.25	274.02	53.23	
Welfare	300.00	27.25	685.57	404.93	280.64	
Cemeteries	350.00	335.57	1,500.00	1,733.33		233.33
Interest	1,500.00		3,500.00	922.50	2,577.50	
Fires	3,500.00		200.00		200.00	
Police Department	200.00					
	\$29,596.25	\$1,078.58	\$30,674.83	\$24,614.85	\$6,318.31	\$258.33
					<u>258.33</u>	
					\$6,059.98	

Grafton County Commissioners' Report

We appreciate the opportunity to submit the following report in our continuing effort to directly communicate with our constituents.

Because of current favorable cash status and appreciable fund balance, Grafton County maintained a level tax requirement this fiscal year, actually reducing the tax requirement by \$200, and we anticipate an even better tax climate in the next fiscal year. However, due to the apportionment process of tax assessment by equalized valuation, some towns did see a slight increase in the county portion of taxes for 1985, though the majority of towns realized a decrease. The unusual fund balance is due to a combination of factors, including unused surplus in the previous budget, conscientious budget management by all departments, transfer of court expenses to the State, increased Nursing Home reimbursements, favorable returns on investments, increased Register of Deeds revenues and continued Revenue Sharing.

Along with saving the County approximately \$300,00 in expenditures with the shift of liability for court activities to the State, we also anticipate receiving \$100,00+ annually in rent on space occupied by the court system.

Grafton County is experiencing the same problems as your local government in the insurance market. Costs are rising dramatically & in some cases insurance coverage is unobtainable. We have retained a consultant to review county insurance needs and available coverage with the hopes of procuring one total package.. Because of current unstable insurance market, we do not have any report or recommendation.

In cooperation with your local government and the state, we are striving for a smooth transition to the new system of welfare service delivery under Senate Bill 1. Settlement for assistance determination has been eliminated & towns & cities are now liable for all general assistance to needy persons in their towns, including transients. However, liability for expenses of all juvenile services & for persons assisted under the categorical grant programs will now be shared by the state and counties, removing town liability. Under Senate Bill 1 & the ensuing partnership between counties and the state Department of Children & Youth Services, the Commissioners note a new direction for juveniles, including the development of new alternative programs to out of home placements.

Energy conservation programs at the nursing home and courthouse have realized a considerable savings with the decrease in fuel and electric consumption, cutting consumption and dollar cost in half for the courthouse fuel alone.

Grafton County Commissioners' Report

In our letter to you in 1983 we noted litigation in a retirement buyback suit where a negative decision would result in cost of \$70,000 plus legal fees with a potential domino effect on local governments. We are pleased to note that the county prevailed in this issue.

The commissioners have changed weekly meeting to "wednesdays. We encourage public attendance at all meetings. The county budget recommendations are processed in May & June. We welcome input and strongly recommend public attendance at the public meetings usally held in June.

GRAFTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

Dorothy Campton-C9rcoran
Chairperson
Arthur E. Snell
Leonard F. Anderson

Town of Benton
Report Of The Town Forest Fire Warden & State Forest
Warden

Between July 1984 and June 1985, we experienced more forest fires throught our state then in any year in the last 50. Two of the leading causes of the 1,605 fires were children and fires kindled without written permission of a Forest Fire Warden. Both causes are preventable, but only with your help.

Please help our town and state forestfire officials with forest fire prevention. Contact your Forest Fire Warden for more information.

If you know of a loggin operation and suspect a state timber harvest law may be violated, call your Forest Fire Warden.

If you own forest land, you will become responsible for the timber tax payment starting April 1, 1986. This is a change in the Timber Tax Law that will impact all forest landowners. Contact your Board of Selectmen for timber tax forms.

FOREST FIRE STATISTICS - 1985

Number Fires Statewide	1,605	
Acres Burned Statewide	1,580	
Cost of Suppression	\$246,017	
District	43 Fires	27.4 Ac
Town	0	

William J. Harris
Forest Fire Warden

John Q. Ricard
Forest Ranger

Town - Benton

Record of Affirmative Votes
At Annual Town Meeting of 1985
March 12, 1985

Agreeable to the Warrant for the Annual Town Meeting, the meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Daniel Elliott on March 12, 1985 at 7:00 PM at the Benton Community Building.

Article 1: Elected:

Wayne Klingler	Selectmen	3 years
Priscilla Boutin	Treasurer	1 year
Maxine Tyler	Taxes	1 year
Helena Harris	Town Clerk	1 year
Matthew Flynn	Auditor	1 year
David Harris	Dog Officer	1 year
David Harris	Sexton	1 year
Scott Roden	Trustee	1 year
Jane Elliott	Supervisor	1 year
Joseph Boutin Jr.	Surveyor of Wood and Lumber	1 year

Article 2: Voted to accept article 2 as written which was to set the salaries of two selectmen, at \$300.00 each, Chairman at \$500.00, Tax Collector, Treasurer, Town Clerk at \$300.00 each.

Article 3: Voted to accept article 3 as written which was to see if the town would vote to make any alterations in the amount of money to be raised and appropriated for the ensuing year for the support of the Town as recommended in the budget, to raise and appropriate all sums so determined for said purpose, and to pass any other vote irrelating thereto.

Article 4: Voted to accept article 4 as written, which was to see if the town will vote to accept the reports of officers and agents as printed in the Town Report.

Article 5: Voted to accept article 5 as written, which as to see if the town will vote to authorize the selectmen to borrow funds for current indebtedness in anticipation of taxes collected in Fiscal Year 1986 and to be paid therefrom.

Article 6: Voted to accept article 6 as written which was to see if the town will vote to authorize a discount on current property taxes paid before a date set by the selectmen, if all previous taxes are paid, and will set the amount of said discount. There was some discussion as to the fairness of the 4% being used, as it was mentioned that some townspeople just don't have the money to pay their taxes in time to take advantage of this discount. Was mentioned that the 4% discount be done away with and there was also mention of a 1% discount. It was said that there were quite a few townspeople who now pay early, but would perhaps hesitate to pay early if there was no discount. Was finally decided by ballot vote that a 4% discount would continue

Article 7: Voted to accept article 7 which was to see if the town will vote to authorize the selectmen to administer or sell any real estate acquired through tax collectors deeds.

Article 8: This article was to transact any other business which may legally come before said meeting. New business consisted of: as to whether town officers really merited a raise or not. Even though this had been voted and agreed upon John Elliott Jr. proceeded to explain the hours and work which was done by various town officers. Finally all agreed that officers did deserve a raise as the last raise given was back around 1968. Article three of last years town warrant was brought up (this article had to do with having all taxable Real Estate in town appraised.) Seems some townspeople feel there is a need for reappraisals in Benton. There was some discussion as to other towns who have had this done and whether they were satisfied or not. Seems most were not satisfied. As most everyone was satisfied with taxes this year, there was no need for reappraisal. Estimated cost for reappraisal of our town at this time would be about \$14,000.00. Voted to remove it from future town warrants unless someone requests it to be put back in. 17- remove from town warrant
15- keep in town warrant

Another topic brough up was that Benton should start doing something to protect itself from fires. A use od dry hydrants was suggested. This is a permanant empty pipe which runs into a brook or pond and in case of fire it is hooked up to. The biggest problem in town when there is a fire is that water supply. Was asked if its legal to dam up brooks and use private ponds for this, and it will have to be checked into as no one knew the answer. When asked about the cost of dry-hydrants, there was no idea of the cost. Ascommitte to check into installing dry hydrants, the cost and legal aspects was formed and consists of Peter Thompson and Edward Matz. It was mentioned that Frank Drew has expressed concern about fires in Benton and suggested that perhaps he would be willing to be on this committee. A motion wa made and seconded to adjourn meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM. New officers sworn in at this time.

A True Copy Attest
Helena L. Harris
Town Clerk, Benton,NH

Town Auditors Report

I have examined the accounts of the Tax Collector, Town Treasurer, Town Clerk and Selectmen and find them fairly stated.

Respectfully Submitted,
Matthew Flynn
Auditor

Town of Benton Trust Funds

For Year Ending Dec., 31, 1985

Ira Whitcher	\$500.00
Whitcher & Mann	500.00
Whitcher & Mann	1000.00
Whitcher & Mann	1750.00
Whitcher & Mann	1750.00
J.C. Speed	134.71
Whitcher & Kendall	200.00
Samuel Annis	50.00
William T. Torsey	50.00
Jonathan Davis	50.00
George H. Clark	200.00
Ella Mann	50.00
Kendrick L. Howe	50.00
Daniel M. & Kendrick L. Howe	100.00
Isabella Tyler	50.00
Lee & Maude McKean	100.00
Vevah M. Leonard	250.00
Library Fund	<u>190.99</u>
Total	\$6,975.70

Interest to be used on 1986 Budget Total Interest

as listed below

received

<u>Cemeteries</u>	<u>Highways</u>	<u>School</u>	
\$485.12	\$286.76	\$258.23	\$1030.11

Respectfully Submitted,
Scott Roden
Joseph Boutin, Jr.
Trustee of Trust Funds

Record of Affirmative Votes
At Annual School Meeting 1985
March 12, 1985

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 P.M. by the moderator, John G. Elliott, Jr. Mr. Elliott read the school warrant and the following action was taking on the articles in the warrant.

Article 1: Elected John G. Elliott, Jr. for Moderator
Article 2: Elected Helena L. Harris for Clerk
Article 3: Elected Margaret Elliott as School Member
Article 4: Elected Maxine Tyler as treasurer
Article 5: Priscilla Boutin asked for a raise for the School Board Member as other town officers were getting a raise. Decided the raise should be figured on the same percentage that town officers raises were figured. All agreed to the raise. Chairman: \$125.00, Other member: \$75.00. It was asked just what S.B.M. did for work. Priscilla Boutin proceeded to explain duties of the members.

Article 6: There were no reports of agents, committees, or officers.

Article 7: Elected Laurie Elliott as auditor.

Mr. Haskins discussed school and volunteered to answer any questions. This years budget is up about \$7000.00 because of increased tuition costs. There are about the same amount of pupils enrolled in school.

Article 8: This was accepted as read, but raises for School Board Members will change the figures for the proposed budget for 1985-1986. The new figure will be \$125,482.50.

Article 9: There was no other business.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the school meeting. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Helena L. Harris
Clerk

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
BENTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

DISTRICT OFFICERS

SCHOOL BOARD

Mr. Peter Thompson, Chairman	Term Expires 1987
Margaret Elliott	Term Expires 1988
Alice Harris	Term Expires 1986

MODERATOR

Mr. John Elliott, Jr.

TREASURER

Mrs. Maxine Tyler

AUDITOR

Mrs. Laurie Elliott

CLERK

Mrs. Helena Harris

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Norman H. Mullen

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Harold J. Haskind

MINUTES - 1985 MEETING
March 12, 1985

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 o'clock in the afternoon by the Moderator, John G. Elliott, Jr. Mr. Elliott read the school warrant and the following action was taken on the articles in the school warrant.

ARTICLE 1. Elected John G. Elliott, Jr. for moderator.

ARTICLE 2. Elected Helena L. Harris as town clerk.

ARTICLE 3. Elected Margaret Elliott as school board member.

ARTICLE 4. Elected Maxine Tyler as treasurer

ARTICLE 5. Priscilla Boutin asked for a raise for the school board members as other town officers were getting a raise. Decided the raise should be figured on the same percentage that town officers' raises were figured. All agreed to the raise. Chairman: \$125.00, other members: 75.00. It was asked just what S.B.M. (school board members) did for work. Priscilla Boutin proceeded to explain duties of the members.

ARTICLE 6. There were no reports of agents, committees, or officers.

ARTICLE 7. Elected Laurie Elliott as auditor.
Mr. Haskins discussed schools and volunteered to answer any questions. This year's budget is up about \$7,000.00 because of increased tuition cost. There are about the same amount of pupils enrolled in school.

ARTICLE 8. This was accepted as read, but raises for school board members will change the figures of the proposed budget for 1985-1986. The new figure will be \$125,482.50.

ARTICLE 9. There was no other business.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the school meeting.
Meeting adjourned at 9:10 o'clock p.m.

Signed, Helena L. Harris, Clerk
Benton School District

SCHOOL WARRANT
State of New Hampshire

To the Inhabitants of the School District in the Town of Benton, N.H.
qualified to vote in district affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Community Building in said district on the 11th day of March, 1986 at 8:30 o'clock in the afternoon to act upon the following subjects:

ARTICLE 1. To choose a Moderator for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 2. To choose a Clerk for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 3. To choose one Member of the School Board for a term of three years, ending in 1989.

ARTICLE 4. To choose a Treasurer for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 5. To determine and appoint the salaries of the School Board and Truant Officer and fix the compensation of other officers or agents of the district.

ARTICLE 6. To hear reports of Agents, Committees, or Officers chosen and pass any vote relating thereto.

ARTICLE 7. To choose Agents, Auditors, and Committees, in relation to any subject embraced in this Warrant.

ARTICLE 8. To see what sum of money the district will raise and appropriate for the support of schools, for the salaries of school district officials and agents and for the payment of statutory obligations of the district and to authorize the application against said appropriation of such sums as are estimated to be received from the state foundation aid fund together with other income; the school board to certify to the selectmen the balance between the estimated revenue and appropriation, which balance is to be raised by taxes by the town.

ARTICLE 9. To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

Given Under our hands at said Benton this 24th day of February, 1986.

Margaret Elliott

Peter Thompson

Alice Harris

SCHOOL BOARD OF BENTON

A True Copy of Warrant--Attest

Margaret Elliott

Peter Thompson

Alice Harris

SCHOOL BOARD OF BENTON

BENTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
Budget for 1986-87

	<u>Adopted Budget 1985-86</u>	<u>Proposed Budget 1986-87</u>
<u>1000 INSTRUCTION</u>		
<u>1100 Regular Education</u>		
561 Tuition	95,100.00	103,840.00
<u>1200 Special Education</u>		
310 Instruction Services		7,436.00
561 Tuition	10,977.50	17,200.00
<u>2000 SUPPORT SERVICES</u>		
<u>2300 General Administration</u>		
870 Contingency	50.00	350.00
<u>2311 School Board Services</u>		
110 Salaries	450.00	450.00
<u>2312 Clerk of the Board Services</u>		
110 Salaries	16.00	16.00
<u>2313 Treasurer Services</u>		
110 Salaries	50.00	50.00
<u>2317 Audit Services</u>		
110 Salaries	16.00	16.00
<u>2321 Office of the Superintendent of Schools</u>		
351 SAU Management Services	2,673.00	3,123.24
<u>2550 Pupil Transportation</u>		
513 Contracted Services	14,000.00	14,000.00
870 Contingency	2,150.00	2,150.00
<u>2660 Data Processing Services</u>		
360 Contracted Services	_____	200.00
	125,482.50	148,831.24

ESTIMATED INCOME FOR 1986-87

	<u>1985-86</u>	<u>1986-87</u>
Unreserved Fund Income	7,119.41	
<u>1000 REVENUE FROM LOCAL SOURCES</u>		
1100 Taxes	83,024.39	111,266.30
1900 Other Revenue-Local Sources		
1920 Trust Fund Income	122.44	122.44
<u>3000 REVENUE FROM STATE SOURCES</u>		
3110 Foundation Aid	30,716.26	32,942.50
<u>4000 REVENUE FROM FEDERAL SOURCES</u>		
4810 Forest Reserve	<u>4,500.00</u>	<u>4,500.00</u>
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	125,482.50	148,831.24

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT
For the Year Ended June 30, 1985

BALANCE SHEET

<u>ASSETS:</u>		<u>General</u>
<u>Current Assets</u>		
<u>Account No.</u>		
100	Cash	\$ 373.18
140	Intergovernmental Receivables	<u>9,682.47</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		10,055.65
 <u>LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY:</u>		
<u>Liabilities</u>		
<u>Account No.</u>		
410	Intergovernmental Payables	2,476.56
420	Other Payables	<u>459.68</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		2,936.24
 <u>Fund Equity</u>		
<u>Account No.</u>		
770	Unreserved Fund Balance	<u>7,119.41</u>
TOTAL FUND EQUITY		7,119.41
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY		10,055.65

BENTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
GENERAL FUND ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURES
For Year Ending June 30, 1985

	<u>Elementary</u>	<u>Junior High</u>	<u>High School</u>	<u>Totals</u>
<u>Instruction</u>				
Regular Education	35,014.06	19,759.85	28,412.28	83,186.19
Special Education	7,329.36			7,329.36
Vocational Education			1,646.25	1,646.25
<u>General Administration</u>				
School Board	138.78	41.12	77.10	257.00
Office of Sup.	668.26	198.00	371.25	1,237.51
Special Area Adm.	2,021.34			2,021.34
<u>Transportation</u>				
Contract Services	8,726.40	2,585.60	5,691.20	17,003.20
 TOTALS	 53,898.20	 22,584.57	 36,198.08	 112,680.85

REPORT OF SCHOOL DISTRICT TREASURER
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BENTON
Fiscal Year July 1, 1984 to June 30, 1985

SUMMARY

Cash on Hand, July 1, 1984	\$	72.08
Received from Selectmen		
Current Appropriation	\$	86,390.61
Revenue from State Sources		17,690.27
Revenue from Federal Sources		5,555.51
Received as Income from Trust Funds		360.31
Received from All Other Sources		<u>537.62</u>
TOTAL RECEIPTS		\$110,534.32
TOTAL AMOUNT AVAILABLE FOR FISCAL YEAR		110,606.40
LESS SCHOOL BOARD ORDERS PAID		<u>110,233.22</u>
BALANCE ON HAND, JUNE 30, 1985	\$	373.18
July 10, 1985		Maxine Tyler District Treasurer

This is to certify that I have examined the books, vouchers, bank statements and other financial records of the school district of Benton of which the above is a true summary for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1985 and find them correct in all respects.

July 15, 1985

Laurie S. Elliott
Auditor

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

I herewith submit my twenty-first annual report to the voters of the Benton School District.

Our enrollment is just about the same for next year as it is this year; 41 students. The breakdown is as follows:

Kindergarten	2 @	\$ 1,100.00 =	\$ 2,200.00
Elementary	19 @	\$ 2,200.00 =	\$41,800.00
Junior High	4 @	\$ 2,585.00 =	\$10,340.00
Senior High	15 @	\$ 3,300.00 =	\$49,500.00
			<u>\$103,840.00</u>

Some of the local tuition rates are as follows:

	<u>Junior High</u>	<u>Senior High</u>
Plymouth		3,450.00
Orford		3,300.00
Hanover	4,232.00	4,232.00
Oxbow	3,750.00	3,750.00
Haverhill	2,585.00	3,300.00

I am happy to report that our gross budget will be offset by \$25,403.85, which we expect to receive from the State in the form of foundation aid.

My thanks, as always to the School Board and the voters of Benton for their continued support.

Respectfully submitted,

Norman H. Mullen
Superintendent of Schools

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT #23

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT'S AND ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S SALARY

Section 5, Chapter 243, Laws of 1953 of the State of New Hampshire requires that school district annual reports show the total amount paid to the superintendent and assistant superintendent.

One-half of the School Administrative Unit expense is prorated among the several school districts of the Unit on the basis of adjusted valuation. One-half is prorated on the basis of average daily membership in the schools for the previous school year ending June 30. The Superintendent of S.A.U. #23 during the 1985-86 school year will receive a salary of \$47,383.00 prorated among the several school districts. The Assistant Superintendent will receive a salary of \$36,865.00 prorated among the several school districts.

The table below shows the proration of salaries to each school district.

	SUPERINTENDENT'S SALARY
Bath	\$ 2,492.35
Benton	516.47
Haverhill Cooperative	19,943.50
Lincoln-Woodstock Cooperative	16,494.02
Monroe	3,013.56
Piermont	2,606.07
Warren	<u>2,317.03</u>
	\$47,383.00

	ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S SALARY
Bath	1,939.10
Benton	401.82
Haverhill Cooperative	15,516.48
Lincoln-Woodstock Cooperative	12,832.71
Monroe	2,344.61
Piermont	2,027.58
Warren	1,802.70

Births Registered In The Town Of
Benton, NH
For The Year Ending Dec. 31, 1985

Date of Birth	Sex	Fathers Name	Mothers Name
January 15, 1985	F	Michael E. Harris	
Monica Jean Harris		Helena L. Harris	

Marriages Registered In the Town Of
Benton, NH
For The Year Ending December 31, 1985

Date & Names of Bride & Groom	Residence of Bride & Groom	Fathers Name	Mothers Name
June 8, 1985			
Jeffrey M. Elliott	Benton, NH	James Elliott	
and		Margaret Elliott	
Linda L. Fitchett	Lisbon, NH	William Fitchett	
		Janice Fitchett	

June 21, 1985			
John P. Blanchard	Benton, NH	Philip J. Blanchard	
and		Norene R. Blake	
Mary E. Locke	Benton, NH	Elbert Randall	
		Maxine R. Worster	

Deaths Registered In The Town Of
Benton, NH
For The Year Ending December 31, 1985

Date of Death	Age	Name of Father	Name of Mother
January 10, 1985	71	Wilfred M. Prescott	
Freeman O. Prescott		Edna E. Goodwin	
Warner, NH			
February 14, 1985	69	William White	
Amos Nmi White		Hilma Pollary	
Marlboro, NH			
April 28, 1985	75	?	
Francois Neveux		?	
Suncook, NH			

Deaths Registered In The Town Of
Benton, NH
For The Year Ending December 31, 1985

Date of Death Name of Deceased & Place of Birth	Age	Name of Father Name of Mother
May 11, 1985 Suphemia Catello Italy	85	Louis A. Catello ?
June 2, 1985 Elizabeth Erickson Manchester, NH	78	Joseph Erickson Naomi Erickson
June 14, 1985 Adeline Rosa Cloutier Manchester, NH	69	Joseph Cloutier Emma Dragon
August 12, 1985 Irene Lord Peterboro, NH	74	Albert Lord Julia Lorden
September 10, 1985 Elizabeth B. Connor Brockton, Mass	70	David Parker Sarah Plummer
October 31, 1985 Rose Hillsgrove Walpole, Mass.	81	Jetza Terpstra Lena Terpstra
November 10, 1985 Clara Shiney Lawrence, Mass.	84	Peter Roy Clara Belanger
Decamber 5, 1985 John Boutin, Sr. Easton, NH	87	Joseph Boutin Winifred Elliott

FIRST CLASS

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Rushden, RI 03824



Chester W. Nimmo